REMARKS

The present Amendment amends claims 1-7 and leaves claims 8-10 unchanged. Therefore, the present application has pending claims 1-10.

The Abstract stands objected to due to informalities noted by the Examiner in paragraph 2 of the Office Action. Amendments were made to the Abstract to correct the informalities noted by the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants submit that this objection is overcome should be withdrawn.

Claims 7-10 stand rejected under 35 USC §112, second paragraph as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regards as the invention. Various amendments were made throughout claims 7-10 to bring them into conformity with the requirements of 35 USC §112, second paragraph. Therefore, Applicants submit that this rejection is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Specifically, amendments were made to claims 7-10 to overcome the objections noted by the Examiner in paragraph 3 of the Office Action.

The Examiner's cooperation is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' Attorney by telephone should any further indefinite matters be discovered so that appropriate amendments may be made.

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(e) as being anticipated by Ozawa (U.S. Patent No. 6,224,249). This rejection is traversed for the following reasons. Applicants submit that the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in claims 1-10 are not taught or suggested by Ozawa whether taken individually or in combination with any of the other references of record.

It should be noted that Ozawa is only prior art with respect to the present invention under 35 USC §102(e). Thus, Ozawa cannot be used for obviousness type purposes to reject the claims of the present application since such is prohibited under 35 USC §103(a). The present application is assigned to the same Assignee as Ozawa, namely Hitachi, Ltd.

Amendments were made to each of the claims so as to more clearly recite that according to the present invention an analytical model preparing apparatus for automatically preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model wherein the apparatus has the function for automatically searching a joint portion from data of the CAD model and emphatically displaying the joint portion. These features of the present invention now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Ozawa.

Ozawa is directed to a drawing apparatus which is connected to compound design apparatus which includes at a display for displaying a drawing, a database device for storing therein reference data to analyze the drawing, a storage for storing therein analysis data of the drawing and a computing unit connected to the drawing apparatus to analyze the drawing. Ozawa is oriented so as to simplify generation of an analysis model from profile data of a parts by executing various analysis of mechanism parts by using parts data produced in a CAD. The present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims is entirely different from that taught by Ozawa.

As described above, the present invention provides that a joint portion is automatically searched and emphatically displayed. No such teachings can be found in Ozawa. For example, Ozawa in col. 6, lines 53-62 describes that four

instructing operations are required to perform a search. Thus, such search is not performed automatically as in the present invention.

Further, according to the present invention, the analytic model corresponding to the joint portion is automatically prepared. No such teaching can be found in Ozawa. For example, Ozawa teaches in col. 6, line 63 through col. 7, line 5 that after denoting a coupling point of the joint J1 in the drawing of Fig. 3b, the user inputs data b (blank) denoting a stationary member from a keyboard and designates a portion of the link member 8a1 in the CAD drawing. Thus, Ozawa requires user operation and thus does not provide for the automatic preparation for an analytic model as in the present invention.

Thus, Ozawa fails to teach or suggest that an analytic model preparing apparatus for automatically preparing an analytic model for analysis from a CAD model, wherein the apparatus has the function of automatically searching a joint portion from data of the CAD model and emphatically displaying the joint portion as recited in the claims.

Therefore, as is quite clear from the above, the features of the present invention as now more clearly recited in the claims are not taught or suggested by Ozawa whether taken individually or in combination with any of the other references of record. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 35 USC §102(e) rejection of claims 1-10 as being anticipated by Ozawa is respectfully requested.

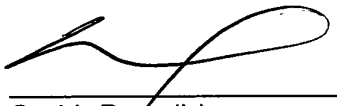
The remaining references of record have been studied. Applicants submit that they do not supply any of the deficiencies noted above with respect to the reference utilized in the rejection of claims 1-10.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants submit that claims 1-10 are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early allowance of claims 1-10 is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, the applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (500.39896X00).

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER & MALUR, P.C.



Carl I. Brundidge
Registration No. 29,621

CIB/jdc
(703) 684-1120